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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Association for Assistance to Families with Disabled Children

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

The Association for Assistance to Families with Disabled Children is based in Moscow.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of the organization are to: raise the standard of living for disabled children and adults; ensure legal protection and observance of rights for families with disabled children; and promote employment for adults and those disabled from childhood. The association's objectives include the provision of medical treatment, rehabilitation and education of disabled children; social adaptation of children and their relatives; and social assistance and humanitarian aid to families with disabled children. The association follows the principles of the United Nations and its work is guided by the aims, objectives and purposes of the Organization.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The association participated in a meeting organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow, in 2006; attended the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, at which it made an oral statement on "A family with disabled children"; it participated in the round table on the expansion of connections and cooperation between Russian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Economic and Social Council, held in Moscow, in 2008; and sent representatives to the presentation of the *Human Development Report, 2007/2008*, organized in Moscow in 2009, by the UNDP office in the Russian Federation.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Since March 2009, the association regularly participates in the activities of the national expert council of NGOs, in support of projects implemented by the UNDP office in Moscow on the development of Russian social legislation.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goals 4 and 5. The association, in cooperation with the Russian Society on Cardiosomatic Rehabilitation and Secondary Prevention, initiated research in the field of congenital cardiac abnormalities in order to prevent them in the early stages of pregnancy. Investigations were launched in July 2009. The association was hindered in its efforts to promote the implementation of the United Nations

programmes by the following problems: the negative attitude of Government authorities towards independent public organizations, especially those connected to international organizations, remains the same as it was four years ago; extremely poor financing; the lack of an operational model and a financing model for organizations created as a result of civil society initiatives; and continued electronic communication problems with United Nations bodies.

2. Biopolitics International Organisation

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Biopolitics International Organisation is an environmental NGO based in Athens, with members and supporters in 150 countries. The organization promotes global environmental sustainability and seeks to inspire society with models and ethics based on environmental protection and appreciation.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aims and purposes include: raising environmental awareness; promoting environmental issues as a vehicle for peace; promoting environmental education; ensuring economic and technological development to support the environment; promoting a new vision in environmental protection for the promotion of sustainable development; networking in 150 countries; implementing educational projects, including awarding prizes for environmental excellence; organizing international conferences and events; and producing publications.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has contributed to the following projects, among others: e-learning courses in sustainable agriculture, architecture, economics, energy, health, legislation and waste management and a course for people living with a disability in modern society; a course on biopolitics and bioethics at the Department of International and European Studies, Panteion University, in Athens, in 2006 and 2007; a European Union programme on promoting urban sustainable development in local authorities, coordinated by Intercollege Cyprus, in 2006 and 2007; an e-learning programme on environmental education for participants from 78 countries in 2008 and 2009; and sponsored a conference on climate change and its impact on agriculture and planning the common agricultural policy in view of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen, in 2009.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2006, the organization was appointed a member of the Hellenic National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

From 2006 to 2009, the organization contributed to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals in Montenegro, Sri Lanka and Turkey, through the following projects: (a) for a training course on environmental education for sustainable development and reconstruction in Sri Lanka, in the wake of the tsunami disaster, the organization developed course material in English and Sinhala to inform and train participants on a range of environmental concerns and their links to health, agriculture and the eradication of poverty. Local activities were held in Galle, Sri Lanka, in 2006 and 2007, by representatives of the organization, to promote these issues and educate underprivileged groups and tsunami victims about the principles of sustainable development; (b) in 2008 and 2009, for a course on sustainable agriculture and rural development in Montenegro: education and transfer of know-how for the Millennium Development Goals to promote Goal 1 on the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, the organization developed educational material (in print and electronically) on sustainable development for new farmers, members of local authorities and new professionals in agriculture, food safety, soil quality and the management of natural resources for the formulation of a national strategy for the reduction of unemployment through the creation of new professional initiatives for the protection of the environment; and (c) in 2008 and 2009, the organization promoted environmental education for sustainable development in Turkey to raise awareness of sustainable agriculture, economics, health, energy and the protection of natural resources, and to help all members of society cope more efficiently and effectively with occupational and community challenges.

3. Education International

Special, 1950

I. Introduction

Education International, based in Brussels, is a global federation of teachers and education personnel. It includes 396 national trade unions and professional associations of teachers and education employees in 171 countries, with a total membership of 30 million.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are to: promote the application of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the development of education and of the collective strength of teachers and education employees; enhance the conditions of work and terms of employment of teachers and education employees; promote the

right to education for all without discrimination; promote the work towards the political, social and economic conditions needed in order to provide equal educational opportunities for all; and combat all forms of racism and discrimination on the basis of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, political opinion, social or economic status or ethnicity. The organization plays a lead role in two important coalitions: the Global Campaign for Education with Oxfam, and the Global March against Child Labour. It also works with the International Trade Union Confederation, the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Group of Eight and with the Global Union Federations representing the principal sectors of industry and services. The organization is a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization's activities focus on the following areas: (a) defence of human and trade union rights for teachers and education personnel worldwide; (b) publication of an online trade union rights manual for member organizations; (c) development of an online barometer of human and trade union rights in education; (d) implementation of a programme combining "Education for All" and education on HIV and AIDS, since January 2006, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), in 48 countries; (e) annual worldwide Education for All activities during Global Action Week (in April of each year), in cooperation with partners in the Global Campaign for Education; (f) strengthening and capacity-building programmes in several countries to help teacher unions become active and powerful partners in the social dialogue and public policy setting in their national context; (g) research on "Quality teachers for quality education" in sub-Saharan Africa, South and South-East Asia and Latin America; (h) programmes to build understanding among teachers from different cultural and religious traditions, with major conferences held in Istanbul, Turkey, and Marrakech, Morocco; (i) the promotion of gender equality; (j) the elimination of discrimination, based on sexual orientation, in education; (k) the elimination of child labour, in cooperation with the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour of the International Labour Organization (ILO); (l) support for education for indigenous peoples; (m) the promotion of codes of professional ethics for teachers; and (n) the promotion of higher education, early childhood education and vocational education and training.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization addressed the plenary sessions of the International Labour Conference of ILO in Geneva from 2006 to 2009. It participated in: the International Conference on Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), held in 2008, in Geneva; the sixteenth International Conference on AIDS, held in 2006 in Toronto, Canada, where it organized a side event on Education for All and education on HIV and AIDS programme; the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women from 2006 to 2009, in New

York; the meetings of the Executive Board of ILO; the thirty-fifth session of the General Conference of UNESCO; meetings of the High-level Group of UNESCO on Education for All, meetings of the International Task Force on Teachers for Education for All; and various meetings convened by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to education, among others.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In addition to the above, the organization cooperated extensively with the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations, notably UNESCO, ILO, WHO and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). Examples include: (a) cooperation with UNESCO on the implementation of the six goals of the Dakar Framework for Action: Education For All: Meeting Our Collective Commitments; (b) organization, in partnership with UNESCO, ILO and UNICEF, of activities around the world to celebrate World Teachers' Day; (c) contribution to the first global study by UNESCO on education under attack; (d) contribution on issues regarding employment in the education sector and trade union rights, child labour, gender equality and HIV/AIDS at meetings of ILO; (e) submission of complaints to the ILO Committee on Freedom of Association on behalf of member organizations in various countries, as well as those regarding violations of fundamental labour standards; (f) participation in the UNAIDS inter-agency task team on education and HIV/AIDS at its semi-annual symposiums and meetings between 2006 and 2009; (g) submission of allegations to the Human Rights Council, in the framework of the universal periodic review process, regarding the violations of trade union rights in Georgia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nepal and Turkey; and (h) submission of information to the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment regarding torture against detained trade union officials in Ethiopia. The organization is also a member of the Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education for All, along with ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank, and UNDP.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Support for the achievement of the Goals was a major focus of the organization's advocacy and action throughout the reporting period. Through participation in the Council of Global Unions and cooperation with the International Trade Union Confederation, the organization has supported broader advocacy in favour of environmental sustainability, decent work and respect for fundamental labour rights. This included focusing particularly on Goals 2, 3 and 6.

4. Family Research Council

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

The Family Research Council operates nationwide with donors from across the United States of America.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is dedicated to the promotion of marriage and family. Through books, pamphlets, media appearances, public events, debates and testimony, the staff of the Family Research Council strives to ensure that the unique attributes of the family are recognized and respected by legislatures, courts, and regulatory bodies nationally and internationally. Additionally, the organization supports policies and laws that recognize the sanctity of human life in national and international policy.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the work of the organization complemented the broad policy goals of the United Nations. It attended meetings and provided information on children, family and human rights issues to its various constituencies, including to the United Nations. It attended the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The organization's contribution focused on the problem of gender imbalance, as found in studies dealing with the rights of the girl child, which helped to formulate an awareness campaign to eradicate male child preference. In April 2007, in cooperation with the American Enterprise Institute, the organization presented the results of a study on the harmful and unethical practices regarding female infanticide and prenatal sex selection and their repercussions on society as a whole.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In pursuit of Goal 3 and Goal 6, the organization published an article in 2008 on the medical argument against the legalization of prostitution. The article builds on other studies and cautions against the legalization of sex trafficking, which does little to advance the cause of women or their health.

5. Grail

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Grail has teams and centres in 33 countries and a total of 842 members.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is a spiritual, cultural and social movement of women grounded in the Christian faith that seeks to respond to the challenge of the Gospel in today's world and in their own lives. Called by spiritual values, the organization envisions a world of peace, justice and renewal of the earth, brought about by women working together as catalysts for change. The organization is a vital international movement of women with members in 33 countries in Europe, Africa, North and South America, Asia, Australia and Melanesia.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In addition to participating actively in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women every year, the organization published a book on best practices for overcoming poverty, in which every country was asked to analyse its work in the light of the Millennium Development Goals. The organization also attended the forty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development in 2006.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

During the reporting period, the organization attended: the forty-fifth and forty-seventh sessions of the Commission for Social Development; the seventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the Civil Society Forum on "Social integration: building a society for all"; the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; the conference of the Department of Public Information for non-governmental organizations, in 2009; and the United Nations Climate Change Conference, in Copenhagen, in 2009.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is a member of the NGO Committee on UNICEF.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. The organization started the "Bank of Time", in Portugal, a girls' vocational programme in Kenya, and women's microeconomic projects in rural areas in Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Goal 2. The organization runs preschools in the Philippines.

Goal 3. The organization works with the Committee for the Equality and Rights of Women of Portugal.

Goals 4 and 5. The organization established clinics in Brazil, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Goal 6. The organization's members established or worked in other clinics in an effort to combat HIV/AIDS in Brazil, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Goal 7. The organization is involved in environmental causes in every country it works in.

6. Grassroots Organisations Operating Together in Sisterhood

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Grassroots Organisations Operating Together in Sisterhood is a global network of women-led grass-roots organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and North America.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The work of the organization is driven by the following goals: strengthen women's participation in the development of communities; support urban and rural grass-roots women's groups to identify and share their successful practices; focus international attention on grass-roots women's needs and abilities; and increase the opportunities for grass-roots women's groups to network within countries. The organization also offers peer-to-peer learning as a unique opportunity for women to present their work as experts and collaborate on common goals. It supports local leaders to establish links and work together to gain recognition, inclusion and funding, from the local level all the way to the United Nations.

B. Any significant change in the organization

Since 2006, the organization has developed networks and added new members in Brazil, Cameroon, India, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Zimbabwe and countries in Europe.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributes to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to gender equality within development. It promotes local-to-local dialogue where women at the grass roots convene with local authorities to share their concerns, priorities and solutions to local development issues. In the area of

HIV/AIDS, members in Africa formed a home-based care alliance, to bring more visibility and support to women who care for people living with HIV/AIDS. In its community resilience programme, member organizations developed grass-roots training teams of women that helped to refine local mechanisms and practices for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Members regularly participate in conferences such as the World Urban Forum, the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, meetings on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, sessions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the international and regional AIDS conferences. The organization also joined other members of the campaign for Gender Equality Architecture Reform, calling for the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, from 2006 to 2009, at which it organized several side events with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the Huairou Commission and UNDP.

Members organized nine participatory panel discussions during the third World Urban Forum, organized one round table and co-sponsored another and organized a daily women's caucus and a grass-roots women's best practices exhibit, among other events. Along with the Huairou Commission and UNDP, the organization held a meeting on securing grass-roots women's access to land and housing in the context of the AIDS pandemic, in December 2008.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The AIDS campaign of the Huairou Commission, led by Grassroots Organisations Operating Together in Sisterhood, coordinated a two-year research initiative across Africa, from 2008 to 2010, formally documenting the work being done by home-based caregivers, with support for the initiative from UNDP through its Japan partnership fund. In 2009, the organization and the Huairou Commission were asked by the Assistant Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action to design and lead the "Community Practitioners' Platform". The Platform is a unique opportunity for representatives at the community level, living and working in poor communities affected by disaster and climate change, to play a key role in setting the agenda and influencing the strategic plans for the Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3. All of the organization's work supports women's empowerment and leadership.

Goal 6. The organization's home-based caregivers alliance provides awareness-raising in their communities for the prevention and transmission of HIV/AIDS. They also support community income-generation projects to promote access to food, medicine and other medical supplies, including mosquito nets to prevent malaria.

Goal 7. The organization's resilience campaign partnered with national Governments and regional leaders to integrate sustainable development into their policies and programmes, particularly in communities affected by disaster and climate change. Initiatives included organic farming, reintroducing indigenous plants and developing retaining walls and other disaster reduction tools in their communities. The organization conducted a reforestation project with women in Brazil, in partnership with UNDP, to replenish indigenous trees in arid regions and ensure regional biodiversity. The women in the project participated in a training-of-trainers scheme, which helped to train over 300 trainers in reforestation, biodiversity and partnering with local and national Governments on initiatives designed to reduce the loss of biodiversity in their communities.

7. Indonesian National Council on Social Welfare

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

The Indonesian National Council on Social Welfare is a non-governmental and non-profit national organization working in the field of social welfare and social development. It is a member of the International Council on Social Welfare.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of the council is to promote a prosperous, just, self-reliant and advanced Indonesian society. Its main activities include: promoting social welfare organizations and coordinating with civil and private organizations; developing an integrated social welfare services model; establishing communication and consultation forums; conducting social and financial advocacy; taking part in community empowerment; and developing partnerships and networks at the national and international levels.

The council cooperates with Government and private institutions, professionals and such United Nations entities as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), ILO and WHO. The programme for 2009 to 2013 focuses on: developing programmes for children; working to reform policies and legislation in social welfare and social development; developing social networks, services and institutions; social rehabilitation; and research and development.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

To address issues such as abandoned children and trafficking, the organization, in cooperation with other institutions and social welfare agencies, focuses on initiatives to empower the role of the family in education, health, entrepreneurship and environmental protection through the *posdaya*, or family and community-based outreach programme, including for disabled people. The organization, in cooperation with the Damandiri Foundation, holds annual observation and study tour programmes for family empowerment at the grass-roots level.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization works with UNFPA, ESCAP, ILO and WHO.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has been developing *posdaya* as a forum for family empowerment at the grass-roots level in the field of education, health, entrepreneurship and environment. The economic and social development activities conducted in the family and community-based outreach programme support local government initiatives to achieve the Millennium Development Goals at the local level in villages. By 2009, approximately 7,000 *posdaya* were established throughout the country, including in the densely populated areas on the island of Java. The organization participated in the NGO forum for social development organized by the International Council on Social Welfare in collaboration with the secretariat of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The first forum was held in Bangkok in 2006, the second in Hanoi in 2007, the third in Manila in 2008 and the fourth in Singapore in 2009. The task of the forum was to identify and discuss problems and seek solutions for social development faced by most member countries of ASEAN. The outcome of the forum is a set of recommendations for inclusion in the annual senior official meeting on social welfare development held by ASEAN.

8. National Coordinator for Human Rights

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

The National Coordinator for Human Rights is an institution that brings together civil society institutions working in advocacy, promotion, education and dissemination of human rights in Peru. The organization currently comprises 80 civil society organizations in Peru. Since 1985 it has achieved national and international recognition for putting human rights issues on the public agenda.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works to develop a comprehensive human rights culture by creating alliances and commitments with civil society actors, nationally and internationally. Its objectives include: promoting independence from the State, political parties, religious organizations and other institutions of power; rejecting the death penalty; defending the right to life; rejecting the use of violence and terror as a means to overcome social, economic and political differences; promoting and strengthening a culture of peace based on justice, tolerance, respect and the enjoyment of human rights; and human coexistence built on ethical and democratic foundations.

B. Any significant change in the organization

The organization has grown to a total membership of 80 civil society organizations, which represents an expansion in terms of both geographical coverage as well as subject matter. In 2009, the organization expanded its membership to organizations such as the "Manuela Ramos" and Demus organizations (responsible for promoting women's rights), the Centro para el Desarrollo y Evaluación de Políticas y Tecnología en Salud Pública ((CEDETES), Colombia), Lundu (organization responsible for promoting the rights of people of African descent); and the Homosexual Movement of Lima (organization responsible for promoting the right to sexual diversity).

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has contributed to the reform of the United Nations, specifically with regard to the creation of the Human Rights Council, through the publication of a guide to the universal system of protection of human rights and the changes in the organization of the United Nations and the role of civil society. The organization works frequently with the special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council. It has promoted a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, to report on the events in Bagua in 2009, and was actively involved with the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, during the Rapporteur's visit to Peru in 2007.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization contributed to the shadow report on Peru, submitted to the Committee against Torture in 2006. It participated in the universal periodic review process at the Human Rights Council in 2008, and contributed to the shadow report on Peru, submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2009.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

At a meeting of ILO in 2009, the organization participated in alternative reporting to the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations regarding the status of implementation of ILO Convention No. 169, on indigenous and tribal peoples. In cooperation with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the organization contributed to promoting greater visibility and political weight to women's rights issues in Peru in 2009.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization is currently an observer at the Human Rights Council. It promotes the adoption by all State institutions of a national human rights plan, which includes performance indicators included in the Millennium Development Goals.

D. Additional information

The organization has reported to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and, in 2009, to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the situation of children recruited by the "Shining Path" movement.

9. ISIS: Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

ISIS: Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange is a global action-oriented women's organization that promotes the cross-cultural exchange of skills and information on women's rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization promotes women's rights and the realization of their capacities and potential. It investigates and documents violations of women's rights and facilitates the exchange of skills and information to strengthen women's capacities, potential and visibility.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following major conferences: conference organized by UNDP on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and best practices in northern Uganda, in 2007; open dialogue on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) organized by the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, in

2008; a peacebuilding consultative meeting organized by UNDP and UNIFEM, on promoting gender equality and peacebuilding, in New York, in 2009. The consultations identified strategies for mainstreaming gender in the United Nations approach to peacebuilding. These contributions were submitted for inclusion in the final report to the Secretary-General.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women during the reporting period.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization's work during the reporting period includes the following: in 2006, in partnership with UNIFEM, it carried out a five-day mission to northern Uganda to document the consequences of war on women and girls. Several consultative meetings with all sections of stakeholders at the national and community levels culminated in the formation of a women's peace coalition for Uganda, which, as of September 2006, in partnership with UNIFEM, engaged the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army to lobby for the inclusion of women in peace negotiations during the Juba talks; in 2007, in collaboration with UNIFEM and the women's movement in Uganda, the organization mobilized women war survivors to participate in the Juba talks; and in 2008, in partnership with UNIFEM, the organization formed the women's task force to spearhead the peace, recovery and development plan for northern Uganda.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3. The organization trained over 1,500 women leaders worldwide in documentation, leadership, human rights and conflict resolution, produced education materials for awareness-raising and a trauma management manual for health workers in such post-conflict situations as those in Liberia and Southern Sudan.

Goal 6. In 2008, the organization participated in the first HIV/AIDS summit held in Nairobi. During the summit, the organization presented a paper on women's experiences in armed conflict situations, at a panel discussion with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and other women leaders. Also in Nairobi, in 2007, the organization participated in the International Women's Summit on Women's Leadership on HIV and AIDS, organized by the World Young Women's Christian Association in partnership with the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS.

10. Lighthouse International

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Lighthouse International works in the greater New York area and provides services to over 5,000 people every year.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to prevent avoidable blindness and excessive loss of functional vision, including through the latest knowledge and technology. Its online and face-to-face education programmes help train professionals and paraprofessionals throughout the world. Research undertaken by the organization seeks to enable blind or partially sighted people to function to their full extent and with independence. The organization seeks to set a global standard through research, education and advocacy.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization works to empower people by developing new skills and vision rehabilitation programmes and by preventing excess disability. Through such efforts, the organization helps to maintain a sustainable work force.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization provided assistance to visitors to the United Nations and delegations to the United States.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization developed an online training programme for vision rehabilitation personnel in 22 countries in the Mediterranean region. It trained Chinese professionals from Wenzhou Medical College in China, in collaboration with the State University of New York College of Optometry, to enable the expansion of vision rehabilitation to approximately 17 million patients in China with low vision problems.